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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 6,749,414

Issue Date: June 15, 2004

Application No. 09/845,566

Filed: April 30, 2001

Attorney Docket No. S697.12-0051

**DECISION ON PETITION** 

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed September 22, 2008, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired at midnight on June 15, 2008 for failure to pay the three and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the sixmonth grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that the delay in paying the maintenance fee under 37 CFR 1.378(c) was intentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the petition was ever given a power of attorney to prosecute the application. If the person signing the petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney document must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address currently of record until appropriate instructions are received.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Tredelle Jackson at (571) 272-2783.

Ramesh Krishnamurthy

Petitions Examiner

Office of Petitions

cc: BRIAN R. MORRISON

900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 1400

**MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402-3319** 

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Tradsmark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Abstandaria, VA 22313-1450. DR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.